

Porthcawl
Urban District Council.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
G. M. A. THOMAS
L.R.C.P., S.E., etc.

For the Year 1937.

1938

PORTHCAWL

Printed by Order of the Urban District Council
by D. W. Jones & Son, Porthcawl.

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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1937.



MEMBERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

(Composed of the whole Council).

Councillor T. L. RICHARDS, J.P. (Chairman of the Council).
Councillor E. THOMAS (Chairman of the Health Committee).
Councillor T. H. AUSTIN. Councillor G. BEYNON.
Councillor T. BURNELL. Councillor R. D. CHALKE, M.A., L.D.
Councillor J. CLARKE. Councillor D. DAVIES.
Councillor D. JONES. Councillor J. LOUGHLIN.
Councillor J. P. ORCHARD. Councillor D. J. REES, J.P., O.B.E.
Councillor W. V. SKINNER. Councillor V. W. THOMAS.
Councillor R. B. THOMAS.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

This Committee is comprised of the whole Council together with the following co-opted Members :—

Mrs. E. C. CHALKE, J.P. (*Chairman*).
Mrs. J. H. BERE. Miss A. ROBERTS.
Miss M. E. GARSED. Mrs. A. LEWIS.
Mrs. J. PHILLIPS. Mrs. A. BROOKE.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health—

G. M. A. THOMAS, L.R.C.P., S.E. (Part Time).

Sanitary Inspector—

R. P. DICKS, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,
Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
(Whole Time).

Health Visitor—

Nurse E. G. RICHARDS, M.B.E., S.R.N., H.V., S.C.M.,
Medical, Surgical Queens Nurse. (Part Time).

Porthcawl Urban District Council.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit herewith for your consideration my Annual Report prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in Circular 1650 (Wales), issued by the Ministry of Health.

This report is upon the Sanitary conditions and Vital Statistics of your Urban area for the year 1937, and covers as fully as possible the work carried out by my department towards the promotion of better sanitation throughout our town.

I trust that you will give it the kind consideration which you have always afforded its predecessors.

Yours faithfully,

G. MORLEY THOMAS,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of District in Acres	3,737
Registrar General's estimate of resident population, Mid-1937	6,693
At Census, 1921 { Total population at all ages	6,642
{ No. of Inhabited Houses	1,297
At Census, 1931 { Total population at all ages	6,447
{ No. of Inhabited Houses	1,530
{ No. of Families or Separate Occupiers	1,610
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books (end of 1937)	2,175
Rateable Value	£53,875
Estimated Product of Penny Rate	£208

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Urban District is situated on a promontory of the Glamorganshire Coast, between the ports of Cardiff and Swansea, the northern boundary being 300 feet above sea level and the southern boundary varying from 20 to 50 feet. Its Southerly aspect, sandy soil, and the fact that it is sheltered on the North and North East by a range of hills, make its climate congenial and healthy.

Geology. (Kindly contributed by G. F. Blundell, Esq., M.A., F.G.S., J.P.)

The physical features of the district are determined by the underlying rocks, viz., Carboniferous Limestones and Triassic conglomerates and marls, which occupy the whole area, though in places concealed by sand and marsh. There are two patches of Carboniferous Limestone, one roughly enclosed by a line drawn from Sandy Bay, Nottage, West Road to the sea, the other forms the whole of the Down. Between we have the fertile Triassic area with its red soil stretching from Newton to Cornelly, good corn land with its various marl pits.

The junction of the Carboniferous and Trias along a North and South Line drawn from the lighthouse through Nottage to St. David's Well is of more than passing interest. It has been brought about by a geological fault, which has had more effect on the district than perhaps any other physical features,

indeed many who do not know of its existence have spent years in debating its results. Along this fissure occurs a line of springs forming St. David's Well, Nottage Well, Ffynnon Tac Brenin, and the Gas Works Well. The first two determined the earliest settlement of the district—at Nottage, while all in a period of greater rainfall fed the stream which carved out the valley terminating seawards at Sandy Bay. Due, too, to this fault is the limestone headland now capped by the breakwater. It was this that fixed the position of Porthcawl. At first a mere inlet sheltered by this rocky bluff, it was artificially improved as an export trade in limestone grew up with Somerset and Devon. When horse trams substituted coal for limestone its possibilities were realised, a harbour was constructed, and a railway joined Porthcawl to the world.

In early times the coast was far more indented, and perhaps more interesting than at present. Less than 200 years ago a tidal inlet extended from Sandy Bay to Cae Gwtr, and there is clear evidence that earlier the sea came up nearly to Nottage Well. Minor inlets occurred on the lines of the Suffolk Place and Newton Waun Valleys. Just as at Kenfig the later increase of sand dammed back the natural drainage to form Kenfig Pool, so, too, in our area The Wilderness and Newton Waun were produced, with the only compensating advantage that now for the first time was a road from Newton to Porthcawl possible, each change producing a crop of problems for the District Councils of the future.

Occupations.

Porthcawl is a Seaside Resort and Residential Area; the chief occupation of the inhabitants is the keeping of Boarding Houses, and the necessary social services.

A small number of men are employed at the local sand and gravel works recently developed, while a few coal miners and quarrymen residing in the district are employed in the mines and quarries at Cornelly and Pyle, approximately three to five miles distant.

Unemployment.

Mr. James White, Manager, for the Ministry of Labour, of the Employment Exchange has kindly supplied the following figures :—

The year 1936.

Wholly Unemployed	128
Insurance Benefit U.A. Claimants	135
Total	263

*The insurable population (approx.) as at the end of June, 1936 2,530

*The figures with regard to the insurable population are given for the end of June, when the number would be high due to an influx of seasonal workers from other areas.

THE YEAR, 1937.

	Men	18—20	16—17	14—15	Women	18—20	16—17	14—15	Totals
Wholly Unemp.	264	9	3	1	13	5	5	4	304
Temp. Stopped	13	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	15
*Ins. Popu'tion	1040	83	79	60	306	119	103	45	1845

*The figure with reference to the insurable population is given for the end of December, when the number would be lower than the preceding one.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1937 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Nett Births.		Nett Deaths belonging to the district			
		Number	Rate per 1,000	Un'r 1 yr-of age		At all Ages.	
				Number	Rate per 1,000	Number	Rate per 1,000
*1921	6,642	53	7.99	6	111.89	57	8.50
1925	6,830	111	15.96	6	55.04	84	12.29
*1931	6,210	67	10.78	1	15.00	70	11.27
1932	6,447	65	10.08	2	30.76	82	12.71
1933	6,100	77	12.62	4	51.94	91	14.91
1934	6,169	59	9.56	2	34.00	76	12.31
1935	6,430	85	13.21	3	35.00	84	13.06
1936	6,585	75	11.39	3	40.00	97	14.81
1937	6,693	74	11.06	3	40.00	74	11.06

*Census Figures.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1937.
(After correction for inward and outward transfers).

	Total.	M.	F.
Live Births, Legitimate	71 ...	37 ...	34
„ „ Illegitimate	3 ...	2 ...	1
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 11.06.			
Still Births	3 ...	2 ...	1
Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still- births), 38.96.			
Deaths	74 ...	29 ...	45
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 11.06.			

Deaths and Death-rates from Puerperal causes.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.
Puerperal Sepsis	0 ...	0.00
Other Puerperal Causes	0 ...	0.00
Total	0 ...	0.00

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age.

All Infants per 1,000 live births	40.54
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	42.25
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0.00
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1 Female.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	1 Male.

Causes of Sickness—Specially Noteworthy.

26 cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year, showing a marked increase over the two preceding years, 7 being notified in 1935, and 6 during 1936.

This increase was due to an outbreak occurring, commencing in the latter end of October, and resulting in 23 cases being notified over a period of ten weeks. One death occurred in a female, 39 years of age, representing a case mortality rate of 3.85 per cent.

Observations resulting from exhaustive enquiries into the causes of this outbreak are stated under the appropriate heading in Section F.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
All causes	.....	29	45
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	.....	—	—
2 Measles	.....	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	.....	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	.....	—	1
5 Diphtheria	.....	—	1
6 Influenza	.....	—	5
7 Encephalitis Lethargica	.....	—	1
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever	.....	—	—
9 Respiratory Tuberculosis	.....	—	1
10 Other Tuberculosis Diseases	.....	—	—
11 Syphilis	.....	—	1
12 General Paralysis of Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	.....	—	—
13 Cancer, Malignant Disease	.....	4	5
14 Diabetes	.....	—	2
15 Cerebral Haemorrhage	.....	3	2
16 Heart Disease	.....	10	13
17 Aneurysm	.....	—	—
18 Other Circulatory Diseases	.....	—	—
19 Bronchitis	.....	—	—
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	.....	3	—
21 Other Respiratory Diseases	.....	—	—
22 Peptic Ulcer	.....	—	—
23 Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	.....	1	—
24 Appendicitis	.....	—	1
25 Cirrhosis of Liver	.....	—	—
26 Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	.....	—	—
27 Other Digestive Diseases	.....	2	1
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	.....	—	1
29 Puerperal Sepsis	.....	—	—
30 Other Puerperal Causes	.....	—	—
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	.....	—	1
32 Senility	.....	1	4
33 Suicide	.....	—	—
34 Other Violence	.....	1	2
35 Other Defined Diseases	.....	3	3
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	.....	1	—

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

All Bacteriological and Chemical Work is carried out by an arrangement with the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff. Frequent samples of water, milk, food-stuffs and clinical material are sent for examination and report. The following figures show the number of specimens other than clinical material examined at the Laboratory during 1937 :—

Water (Bacteriologically)	11
Water (Chemically)	7
Milk (Bacteriologically))	22
Designated Milk (Bacteriologically)	21
Milk (for Tubercle Bacilli)	6

Ambulance Facilities.

For Infectious Cases :—The Two Motor Ambulances of the Bridgend Isolation Hospital are available.

The service has been satisfactory and no difficulties were experienced in obtaining prompt removal of all cases admitted to the Hospital.

For Non-Infectious Cases and Accidents :—None. A local voluntary organisation is building up a fund with a view to acquiring an ambulance for emergency and accident cases. There is urgent need of an ambulance for accident cases, particularly during the high influx of visitors in the holiday season.

Nursing in the Home.

No provision is made for general or infectious disease nursing in the home, this class of nursing being left to nurses in private practice and those from nursing centres.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Welfare Centre :—A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is conducted by your Council. Sessions are held on alternate Tuesday afternoons at the Girl Guides Hall, South Road, Porthcawl.

Ante-Natal Clinic :—The clinic is held fortnightly, in the same building as the Welfare Centre. As pointed out in previous reports, these premises are not suitable and are absolutely unfitted for ante-natal work; better accommodation is to be provided at the lesser hall of the Grand Pavilion.

School Clinics :—Are under the supervision of the Glamorgan Education Authority.

Tuberculosis Dispensary :—The nearest Dispensary serving this area is at the Old Cottage Hospital, Bridgend. This building has been taken over by the Welsh National Memorial Association and equipped on modern lines.

Venereal Diseases :—The nearest treatment centre is situated near the Great Western Railway Station, Port Talbot. It is maintained by the Glamorgan County Council.

The Clinic is open : —

Mondays and Tuesdays	.....	Males.
Fridays	.....	Females.

Hospitals.

For Small Pox :—The Penybont Small Pox Hospital is available. The premises are situated at Cefn Hirgoed, near Bridgend; it houses 8 beds and has facilities for extension.

Fever Cases :—No hospital is maintained by the Council. By an arrangement all cases are sent to the Bridgend Isolation Hospital, your Council paying the charges. There are 44 beds and the staff comprises non-resident Medical Officer, Matron, Sister, Staff Nurse, two Assistant Nurses and four Probationers.

Extension to the existing accommodation, comprising the building of a new ward and offices, are in the course of erection.

Cases of Puerperal Fever are also sent to this hospital.

For Tuberculosis :—There are no Sanatoria or Tuberculosis Hospitals in the area, these cases are cared for by the Welsh National Memorial Association and Glamorgan County Council.

For Maternity :—No Institution for Maternity Cases is maintained by the Council. By an arrangement with the Glamorgan Public Assistance Committee cases are admitted to the Maternity Ward of the Bridgend Infirmary, when the Medical Officer of Health is of the opinion that an expectant mother is housed under unsatisfactory conditions or in circumstances tending to expose the patient to unnecessary risks due to complications.

For Children :—None.

General:—The General Hospitals available for the district are situated at Cardiff and Bridgend.

For Orthopædics—The Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff, for cases requiring a short stay.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

List of Adoptive Acts, Bye-laws and Regulations relating to the Public Health, in force in the district.

Adoptive Acts.

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890.
Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1890.
Private Street Works Act, 1892.
Notification of Births Act, 1907.
Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907.
Porthcawl Urban District Council Act, 1914.
Public Health Act, 1925.

Bye-Laws and Regulations in regard to:—

New Streets and Buildings.
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.
Removal of Offensive and Noxious matters.
Houses let in Lodgings.
Slaughterhouses.
Pleasure Boats and Vessels.

Delegated Powers.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.
Cinematograph Act, 1909.
Shops Act, 1912-1936.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Notification of Births.

The notification of Births Act, which requires all births and still births occurring after the 28th week of pregnancy to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours, forms the basis of health visiting. This duty has been well observed.

In all cases where the birth has been notified and as soon as ten days have elapsed, each child is visited by the Health Visitor. After this a visit is paid every four weeks for the first three months. From the fourth month onwards until the child has reached the age of five years a visit is paid every three months. This applies to children doing satisfactorily. In those cases where the Medical Officer or Health Visitor thinks that progress is not being maintained, many more visits are paid.

The number of births and still births is in the ratio of 25.66 to 1.

The total number of births notified was 77, including 3 still births.

Midwives notified 74.

WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITOR.

Ante-natal Visits :—

Primary	26
Total	373
Primary visits to infants (under 1 yr. of age)	56
Total Visits	286

Visits to Children between the age of 1 and 5 years :—

Total	466
-------------	-----

Total number of attendances at the Clinic during the Year :—

(1) By Children under 1 year of age	173
(2) By children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	474

Total number of children who attended at the Centre for the first time during the year :—

(1) Children under 1 year of age	45
(2) Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	15

Ante-natal Clinic :—

Total number of attendances at the Clinic during the year	44
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Total number of expectant mothers who attended at the Clinic during the year	28
--	----

Supply of Free Milk to Necessitous Cases.

All milk supplied through the Centre is Tuberculin Tested and the amount expended for the year ending 31st December, 1937 was £112/17/6.

The scheme at present operated by the Council makes provision only for expectant mothers during the last three months of pregnancy and children up to 9 months of age.

My Council have given preliminary consideration to this restriction, and agreed in principle to remove these limitations and extend the existing facilities so as to include necessitous mothers, and children up to school age. This matter, together with other important aspects of Maternity and Child Welfare are to be the subjects of discussions at future meetings of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

The services under Maternity and Child Welfare have not been extended in any way during the year 1937.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

It is illegal for a person to undertake for reward the nursing and maintenance of an infant under the age of nine years apart from its parents or having no parents, unless due notice in writing has been given to the Local Authority prior to the receiving of the child, the period of notice varying from 48 hours to seven days.

This rule can only be waived in case of emergency and even then notice is required within twelve hours.

The Medical Officer of Health is the person named to whom notices under the Act are required to be sent, and the Health Visitor is the appointed visitor to children to whom the Act applies. The statutory powers of the Health Visitor are substantial.

There were three children on the register at the end of the year.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

The following rates are those of deaths of women per 1,000 live births registered :—

Year.	England & Wales.	Porthcawl.	<i>Actual Deaths—Porthcawl.</i>	
			From Sepsis	From other Causes
1933	4.42	0.00	—	—
1934	4.6	0.00	—	—
1935	4.1	22.47	1	1
1936	3.81	25.00	1	1
1937	3.23	0.00	—	—

Maternal deaths are the subject of special inquiry by the Medical Officer of Health.

Notifications.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia 1.

Case Rate per 1,000 total births :—

Porthcawl	12.98
England and Wales	13.93

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Sections C, D and E, dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Area, Housing, and Inspection and Supervision of Food embrace the submission of the Sanitary Inspector's Report

Water Supply.

Practically the whole of the area is served by a piped supply on the constant system through the mains of the Porthcawl Council's Waterworks. Certain outlying isolated houses and farm premises (7 in number) derive their water supplies from underground water cisterns supplied from the roofs. In these instances it was found impracticable under existing conditions to provide a piped supply from the waterworks mains.

The gathering grounds for the towns water supply are situated in the Margam Hills, about 9 miles distant from the Porthcawl Urban Area.

The Main stream feeding the Graig-yr-Aber Impounding Reservoir rises in the upper part of these hills (approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles above the dam) and flows in a southerly direction; another supply is obtained from the Cwm Fadog Stream in an adjacent valley. During the peak period of the holiday season, further supplementary supplies are obtained from two boreholes recently sunk in the Graig-yr-Aber Valley. From these sources the water is brought by means of a pipe line to the filtration plant, situated at Ty Coch within the Council's Area. The mechanical filtration plant consists of 3 filters capable in the aggregate of dealing with 15,000 gallons of water per hour. The filtered water is passed into the Ty Coch service reservoir of 1,000,000 gallons capacity.

Sufficiency of Supply.

The available supplies are insufficient to meet the demands of consumers during the peak period of the holiday season. These demands are rapidly increasing each year due to building development and the increasing popularity of the Area as a holiday resort.

The endeavours of your Council to augment the supplies by obtaining water from Kenfig Lake was the subject of a public inquiry into the matter. This resulted in the Council deciding not to proceed further with the scheme owing to the prohibitive cost of fencing the lake, etc.

Your Council's Consultant Engineers are proceeding with the preparation of an alternative scheme comprising the proposed construction of a large storage reservoir at the Pantyrhyll Valley, near Ty Coch.

The proposed reservoir will receive the surplus overflow waters, from the Graig-yr-Aber Valleys, during the Autumn and Winter months, and will be capable of holding 12 to 15 million gallons, amply sufficient to supplement Summer supplies.

The proposed works in connection with this source of supply are the subject of application for loan to the Ministry of Health.

Steps taken to guard against Contamination.

The gathering grounds and water courses feeding Graig-yr-Aber Impounding Reservoir are the subject of regular inspections. The risk of pollution at Llwyn Gladys Farm still exists and has been the subject of comment in my previous reports.

Quality of the Supplies.

Not infrequently the results of Chemical and Bacteriological Examinations indicate the quality of this water to be below desired standards. These adverse reports are obtained if samples are collected when heavy rains have fallen after prolonged dry periods.

The work of installing a Chlorination Plant and an additional filter at Ty Coch is to commence at an early date.

The number of samples collected for bacteriological and chemical analysis is as follows :—

	<i>No. of Samples.</i>	<i>Satis- factory.</i>	<i>Moderate Purity.</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory.</i>
Bacteriological	11	6	3	2
Chemical	7	4	1	2
Total	18	10	4	4

CHEMICAL SAMPLES.

No.	Collected on.	Labelled.	Remarks.
1	Jan. 4th, 1937	Tap, Windsor Road, Porthcawl	A soft neutral water. The chemical and microscopical charac- ters are satisfactory.
2	Mar. 22nd, 1937	(a) Stream above Llwyn-Gladys Farm, Graig-y- Aber	A soft neutral water. The chemical and microscopical charac- ters are satisfactory.
		(b) Borehole No. 2 Sub-soil water	A neutral water of medium hardness and containing dissolved iron in small amounts. Chemical analysis shows no evidence of any organic contamin- ation, but the physical characters are unsatis- factory.
3	June 10th, 1937	Kenfig Pool, near Draw-off	A fairly soft water. Chemical analysis in- dicates the sample to be of a fairly peaty character with no evi- dence of any sewage or any animal con- tamination.
4	July 19th, 1927	(a) Shallow well, Ffynnon Fawr, Nottage	A hard water with physical characters fairly good.
	Do. Do.	(b) Kenfig Pool, Centre South Side	A fairly soft water. Microscopical and physical characters are somewhat unsatis- factory.
5	Nov. 25th, 1937	Tap, Nottage House, Craig-yr-Aber Supply	A soft neutral water. Sample contains dis- solved iron in appreci- able amount, but chemical analysis shows no evidence of any organic contamin- ation.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES.

No.	Collected on.	Labelled.	Remarks.
1	Jan. 4th, 1937	Tap, Windsor Road, Porthcawl	Of moderate bacterial purity.
2	March 22nd, 1937	(a) Craig-yr-Aber, 50 yards above Borehole No. 2.	Of doubtful bacterial purity.
	Do. Do.	(b) Borehole No. 2, 100 feet deep	Bacteriological examination shows no evidence of any sewage or animal contamination.
3	May 6th, 1937	Salt Lake.	
		(a) Bathing Pool near Sluice	Satisfactory.
	Do. Do.	(b) Near Tips, West Side.	Satisfactory.
	Do. Do.	(c) Centre South Side	Satisfactory.
4	June 10th, 1937	Kenfig Pool	Satisfactory. Sinker sample taken in 11-12 feet of water near the proposed draw-off point. Stopper removed when the bottle submerged about 10-11 feet below the surface of the water.
5	July 19th, 1937	(a) Shallow well, Ffynnon Fawr.	Of doubtful bacterial purity.
	Do. Do.	(b) Kenfig Pool Centre South	Fairly satisfactory.
	Do. Do.	(c) Kenfig Pool Centre West.	Fairly satisfactory.
6	Nov. 25th, 1937	Tap, China Pantry, Nottage House. Craig-yr-Aber Supply.	Bacteriological examination shows no evidence of contamination.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The major portion of the district is sewered, one small section has a separate system for surface water drainage, the remainder is on a combined system.

The Western Area is drained by gravitation to a sea outfall at Iron Gate Point, and is generally satisfactory.

Extension of Sewers.

Several minor extensions to sewers have been made during the year in those parts of the Area where building development has taken place.

The automatically operated pumping plant recently installed in the Eastern Section has been completed. Since the adjustments in the new scheme have been carried out, no serious complaints have been received in connection therewith and the new arrangement is now working satisfactorily.

Cesspools.

The number of cesspools in use (13) is one less than the number recorded for 1936. In addition to the cesspools there is one Septic Tank which receives the drainage matter from public conveniences on Lockes Common.

One cesspool serving two dwelling houses on the West Drive was dispensed with, and the drains of the two premises were connected to the Council's sewers.

Every opportunity is taken for dispensing with the cesspools in use; and if allowed at new premises the owner is required to give an undertaking to dispense with the cesspool and connect the drainage of his premises to a public sewer when the necessary extensions make it practicable to do so.

The emptying and cleansing of cesspools is carried out with a modern mechanical cleansing vehicle and any nuisance arising from these operations is reduced to a minimum.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION. CLOSETS.

Water Carriage System.

No. of Water Closets connected to the Council's Sewers	3,884
" " draining to Cesspools	107
" " draining to Septic Tanks	9
Total Water Closets	3,950

Conservancy System.

No. of Earth Closets or Privies in use	1
*No. of Pail Closets in use	34
Total	<u>35</u>

*Mainly Chemical Closets used in connection with structures of a temporary nature and situated at Newton Beach.

Ashpits.

The position with regard to ashpit accommodation shows but a slight increase in the number of sanitary bins in use. In the majority of premises miscellaneous receptacles are used to deposit refuse for collection by the cleansing vehicles.

Public Conveniences.

The provision of additional public conveniences is required. The following conveniences are maintained by your Council :—

West Ward.

John Street (Males and Females).
Lockes Common (Males and Females).
The Esplanade (Males and Females).
Nottage Village (Males).

East Ward.

Griffin Park (Males and Females).
Mackworth Road (Males).
Newton Village (Males).

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The services in connection with house and trade refuse collections and disposals, street cleansing, and public conveniences are carried out by the Council's own staff under the control of the Surveyor.

Collection and transport of refuse is affected by means of two motor cleansing vehicles : the disposal is by tipping on one central "Dump" near the Northern boundary of the Urban Area.

PRIVATE STREET WORKS.

Fifteen streets were paved, drained, etc., during 1937. These included a number of back lanes and have affected a much needed sanitary improvement. A further scheme for the proper completion of additional streets, in both Wards, is in course of preparation.

SHOPS.

659 visits to shops were made by the Sanitary Inspector during the year. The following improvements were carried out at shops in the area :—

- One new water closet substituted for defective accommodation.
- One drain repaired and properly ventilated.
- One premises—provision of suitable and sufficient temperature.
- Adequate ventilation was found in all shops inspected.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

One privately owned Salt Water Swimming Pool, situated near the Eastern Promenade, is open to the public. The pool has an inlet from the sea which is controlled by a sluice, and the water is changed at frequent intervals. Samples of water collected from various points in the pool were submitted to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination. The analyst's report was satisfactory. Ballast refuse is now being tipped into parts of the pool and I understand that its further use, for bathing purposes, is to be discontinued.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The number of houses found to be infested with bed bugs was eight. These premises were in private ownership—there are no Council Houses in the Area.

The work of disinfection in these cases was undertaken by the Public Health Department, and the responsible parties had to meet the expenses incurred in carrying out the work.

Concentrations of Sulphur Dioxide gas and spraying with insecticide fluids are the chief methods employed for the eradication of these pests.

In all known cases of infestation the persons concerned are advised upon the most effective methods for freeing their homes and belongings from vermin, and all possible assistance is rendered towards this end.

The principal reasons for the prevalence of these pests are :—

- (1) The indifferent attitude of many people towards bugs.
- (2) The dread of publicity associated with disinfection.
- (3) The inadequate measures adopted by house-holders for ridding their premises of vermin.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Periodical visits were made throughout the year to piggeries, slaughterhouses, farm buildings, the refuse "dump," etc : and as a result of the action taken for destroying these rodents, a large number of dead rats were accounted for.

The public are encouraged to seek advice by inquiries at the Council Offices, and advisory leaflets obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture were distributed throughout the Area.

The methods employed for their destruction include trapping, gassing, poisoning, ferreting and shooting : the most effective of these is gassing by means of a "Clayton (Type F) Machine" using Sulphur Dioxide gas.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The number and nature of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector is as follows :—

General Sanitation.

Water Supply	81
Drainage	710
Stables and Piggeries	3
Fried Fish Shops	15
Tents, Vans, Sheds	191
Faactories	100
Workshops	86
Bakehouses	51
Public Conveniences	28
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	7
Refuse Collection	16
Refuse Disposal	50
Rats and Mice Destruction	116
Smoke Observations	5
Schools	14
Shops	659
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	450

Housing.

Under Public Health Acts.

Number of Houses inspected	974
Visits paid to above houses	1119

Under Housing Acts.

Number of Houses inspected	33
Visits paid to above houses	39

Overcrowding.

Number of houses inspected	19
Visits paid to above houses	21

Verminous Premises.

Number of houses inspected	20
Visits paid to above houses	47
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	11

Infectious Diseases.

Inquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases	67
Visits re Disinfection	57
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	62

Meat and Food Inspection.

Visits to:—

Slaughterhouses	406
Meat Shops, Stalls, etc.	518
Cowsheds	152
Dairies, Milk Shops	166
Sampling of Milk (Bacteriological)	33
Ice Cream	48
Restaurants	23
Fishmongers and Poulterers	52
Miscellaneous Visits	10

The Number of Notices Served during the Year.

Informal	140
Statutory Public Health Act, 1875—Section 94	11
Statutory Public Health Act, 1936—Section 93	3
Housing Act, 1936	5

Result of Service.

Nuisances and other matters dealt with satisfactorily	127
Notices not complied with	Nil

Verbal intimations resulted in a considerable amount of work being executed without the need for further action.

Nuisances and other matters dealt with.

Foul Drains, Water Closets, etc., opened up and cleared	164
Insufficient Water Closets and Drains	3
Accumulations of Manure and Other Offensive Matter	7
Animals so kept as to be a nuisance	2
Dirty and Verminous Dwelling Houses	20
Dwelling Houses needing repairs	57
Dwelling Houses overcrowded	19
Buildings Reported to the Surveyor	5

Principal Structural Improvements Carried Out.

3 New Water Closets substituted for Insufficient Closet Accommodation.	
7 New Drain Inspection Chambers Fitted to Existing Drains.	
9 New Drain Inspection Chamber Covers (of approved pattern)	
240 Yards of Glazed Earthenware Drain Pipes laid down on 25 premises.	
3 New Water Closet Pedestal Pans Fitted.	
10 New Flushing Apparatus Fitted to Existing Water Closets.	
15 Water Closets (Windows, Floors, etc.,) put in order.	
3 New Sanitary Sinks and Waste Pipes Fitted.	
7 Yards Paved.	
15 Yard Pavings Repaired.	
4 New Syphon Gulley Traps substituted for Insanitary Fittings	
10 Soil and Vent Pipes Repaired.	
5 Drain Inspection Chambers Repaired and Reconstructed.	

Houses Improved.

Houses repaired and renovated throughout	4
„ re-spouted	9
„ rendered or re-pointed	6
„ roofs repaired	20
„ wall and ceiling plaster repaired	15
„ new wood floors fitted	3
„ wood and other floors repaired	5
„ new firegrates fitted	3
„ firegrates repaired	7
„ windows repaired and made to open, sash cords fitted	23
„ new doors fitted	2
„ doors repaired	17

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 51 Factories and Workshops distributed throughout the District. They are classified as follows :—

Engineering Works (Motor Repairs, etc.)	8
Bakehouses	8
Dressmakers	2
Shoemakers	7
Blacksmiths	2
Wheelwrights	1
Plumbers	2
Timber Merchants and Joiners	2
Builder's Workshops	5
Painters	6
Sewage Pumping Stations	1
Gas Works	1
Cycle Repair Shops	2
Quarries	1
Printers	1
Upholsterers	1
Monumental Works	1

These premises have been visited periodically, and improvements were affected in cleanliness and sanitary accommodation.

Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Inspections.</i>	NUMBER OF—		<i>Occupiers</i>
		<i>Written</i>	<i>Prosecuted.</i>	
1	2	3	4	
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	100	 Nil	 Nil	
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ..	86	 Nil	 Nil	
Workplaces (other than Out-workers premises)	—	 —	 —	
Total	186	 Nil	 Nil	

Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

<i>Particulars.</i>	NUMBER OF DEFECTS—			<i>No. of Offences in respect to which Prosecu- tions were Instituted.</i>
	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>	
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	—	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	—	—	—	—
<i>Sanitary Accommodation :—</i>				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective	1	1	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory & Workshops Acts :—</i>				
Illegal Occupation of Under- ground Bakehouses (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to Outwork and Offences under the sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Minis- try of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)				
Totals	2	2	—	—

SCHOOLS IN PORTHCAWL AREA.

Generally speaking, the hygienic conditions in the Council Schools are satisfactory and those obtaining in the recently erected school are good.

<i>School.</i>	<i>Accommo- dation.</i>	<i>On Register.</i>	<i>Sanitary Conveniences.</i>
Porthcawl Newton Council School..... (Senior Dept.)	298	 249	 12 Wash down W.C.'s, 1 Urinal and 6 Wash- hand Basins.
Porthcawl Newton Council School..... (Infants' Dept.)	138	 93	 7 Wash down W.C's, 1 Urinal and 6 Wash- hand Basins.
*Porthcawl Nottage Council School	217	 144	 8 Wash down W.C's, and 2 Urinals and 7 Wash-hand Basins.
Central Senior Schools, Porthcawl	480	 361	 19 W.C's., 11 Urinals, 22 Wash-hand Basins, 9 Baths.

*The eight water closets were substituted for eight trough closets which were obsolete and insanitary.

The schools in the Area are under the control of the Glamorgan County Council who provide for the medical inspection of the scholars.

The sanitary conveniences, etc., are inspected periodically, and, any defects found are reported to the Education Authority for attention. In cases of Infectious Diseases, the co-operation of the Headmasters is appreciated, and steps are taken to exclude from school all scholars and any articles which have been in contact with the patient.

All milk supplied to the scholars attending these schools is "Pasteurised," and periodical samples collected from this supply are submitted to the County Analyst for Bacteriological Examination.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Generally speaking the housing conditions are good. The problem of slum clearance does not present itself, and there is an entire absence of back to back houses and congested courts: the work of inspection is required mainly to maintain reasonable conditions of repair.

Action has had to be taken for the demolition of a few very old cottages which were found to be so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. Their general condition was such that they required demolition and complete reconstruction.

The following table indicates the progress of house erection in the Urban Area from 1893 to 1937.

From 1893 to 1900—	55	houses	were	built.
„ 1900 to 1905—	96	„	„	„
„ 1905 to 1910—	492	„	„	„
„ 1910 to 1915—	249	„	„	„
„ 1915 to 1920—	98	„	„	„
„ 1920 to 1925—	223	„	„	„
„ 1925 to 1930—	137	„	„	„
„ 1930 to 1935—	275	„	„	„
„ 1935 to 1936—	121	„	„	„
„ 1936 to 1937—	55	„	„	„

Sufficiency of Supply.

There is no shortage of houses in the district and the development of new housing sites by private enterprise meets the demand.

Although so many have been erected during the past few years by private enterprise, no houses have been built for letting at a rental within the means of the average working class family.

Acts and Bye-Laws.

No special difficulties have been experienced in the administration of the Acts relating to Housing or the existing Bye-Laws.

Insanitary Houses.

Action taken under the Housing Act, 1930 and the Corresponding Provisions in the Housing Act, 1936, showing position as to progress at 31st December, 1937.

(a) Number of dwelling houses demolished	2*
(b) Parts of dwellings closed	12
(c) Number of persons displaced from dwelling houses from dwelling houses in (a) and (b)	34
(d) Number of dwelling houses made fit as a result of formal notice	45

*In addition to the action reported above :—

(e) Insanitary houses which have been closed (but not demolished) on an undertaking (which has not been cancelled) of the owner	6
(f) Houses which have been made fit as the result of informal notice preliminary to formal notice	397

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Unhealthy Areas Nil.

NUMBER OF HOUSES OWNED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

(1). Under the Housing Acts	Nil.
(2). Other Powers	Nil.

NUMBER OF HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Total	55
(1). By Local Authority	Nil.
(2). By Other Bodies or Persons	55

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts ...	Nil
(1). By Local Authority	Nil.
(2). By other Bodies and Persons	Nil.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1107
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1158

(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	33
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	39
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4) Number of dwelling houses (excluding those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	85

2.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	66
---	----

3—Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	4
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices.	
(a) By Owners	4
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	14

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.

(a) By Owners	14
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 1

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders Nil

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit Nil

4.—Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding :—

(a)—(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year Nil

(2) Number of families dwelling therein Nil

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein Nil

(b)—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year Nil

(c)—(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 2

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases 15½

The following figures are extracts from the Registrar General's Census Report, 1931.

Administrative Area.	Acreage (Land & Inland Water)	TOTAL POPULATION.				PRIVATE FAMILIES & DWELLINGS, 1931.				
		1931.				Private Families.	Population in Private Families.	Structurally Separate Dwellings Occupied.	Rooms Occupied.	Persons per Room.
		Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons. per Acre.					
PORHCAWL U.D.										
Civil Parish.										
Newton Nottage										
East Ward	2,165	2,071	1,084	1,345	1.1	609	2,374	576	3,601	0.66
West Ward	1,249	4,571	1,662	2,356	3.2	1,001	3,737	954	6,478	0.58
Totals	3,414	6,642	2,746	3,701	1.9	1,610	6,111	1,530	10,079	0.61

Dwellings occupied by 1 Private Family	1,454
Dwellings occupied by 2 Private Families	72
Dwellings occupied by 3 or more Private Families	4
Total Dwellings occupied	1,530
Total Dwellings occupied and Vacant	1,691

TENTS, VANS AND SIMILAR STRUCTURES.

During the Summer months a record number of these structures were in use on the various camping sites in the Area. In some instances the sanitary conditions prevailing were a menace to public health and resulted in Summary Proceedings against the parties in default. No difficulties have been experienced in this connection with properly organised camps.

An indication of the increase in the number of campers may be obtained from the following information obtained during the peak period of the season, and which relates to August Bank Holiday Week.

	Ordinary Camps.	Organised Camps.
Aggregate number of structures	1,528	210
Aggregate number of occupants	7,604	863
Total camping population in Civilian Camps		8,467
Total number of Structures in use		1,738
Number of visits of inspection made to camping sites, 1937		191

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

	<i>Nature of offence.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
	Byelaws made under Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1885, Section 9, Sub-section 2,— Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	
1	Nuisance arising from want of Privy Accommodation.	Fined £3 and Costs.
2	Nuisance arising from insufficient covered receptacles for refuse.	Fined £3 and Costs.
3	Nuisance arising from want of Privy Accommodation.	Fined £3 and Costs.
4	Nuisance arising from insufficient covered receptacles for refuse.	Fined £3 and Costs.
	Shops Acts, 1912-1928.	
5	Failing to close shop for the serving of customers at the Statutory time prescribed by the Acts.	Fined £1.
6	Failing to close shop for the serving of customers at the Statutory time prescribed by the Acts.	Fined 10/-.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Number of Dairy Farms in the Urban Area	21
The number of milch cows kept approximate to	200
Producers of Graded Milk	2
Number of Retail Purveyors :—	
(a) Resident	22
(b) Non-Resident	5
Number of Dairy Milkshops	4

Several of these purveyors distribute both loose and bottled milk.

Five retail purveyors hold licences for the sale of graded milk. The Special Designations are :—

Tuberculin Tested (Certified). Licenced by the County	2
Tuberculin Tested	2
Pasteurised	1
Visits to Cowsheds during the year	152
Visits to Dairies and Milkshops	166
Visits in connection with sampling of milk (bacterio- logical)	33
Miscellaneous visits in connection with milk supply	10

Steady progress is being maintained towards promoting better conditions in the Production, Storage and Distribution of the milk supplies in the Area.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

The reports of the County Bacteriologist on Samples of Milk submitted for examination from this District are as follows :—

Designated Milk:—

<i>Taken.</i>	<i>No. of Samples.</i>	<i>No. Satisfactory.</i>	<i>No. of Moderate Bacterial Purity.</i>	<i>No. Unsatisfactory.</i>
By Sanitary Inspector	21	18	—	3
Totals	21	18	—	3

Undesignated Milk:—

<i>Taken.</i>	<i>No. of Samples.</i>	<i>No. Satisfactory.</i>	<i>No. of Moderate Bacterial Purity.</i>	<i>No. Unsatisfactory.</i>
By Sanitary Inspector	15	9	2	4
By Police	6	6	—	—
Totals	21	15	2	4

Samples Tested for the Presence of Tubercle Bacilli.

Undesignated Milk.

<i>Taken.</i>	<i>Number of Samples.</i>	<i>Number Positive.</i>	<i>Number Negative.</i>
By Sanitary Inspector	6	—	6
Totals	6	—	6

The Procedure for eliminating animals yielding Tubercular Milk is contained in the Milk and Dairies Act, and is now administered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Any suspected cases are immediately reported to that Authority for attention.

Ice Cream.

This trade, which is extensive during the Summer months, is only partly controlled by powers obtaining in the Porthcawl Urban District Council Act, 1914. There is no recognised standard of purity for Ice Cream, either in chemical constitution or germ content. When of good quality it is a valuable food. It should be packed in sealed cartons on manufacture as is done by the best traders.

THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Sampling under the Food and Drugs Acts is undertaken by the Police, under the direction of the County Council. I am indebted to Police Superintendent W. C. May for the following particulars of samples taken in the district during the year.

Samples.	No. Taken.
New Milk	38
Butter	2
Margarine	1
Lard	1
Cheese	1
Cocoa	1
Tea	1
Peas	1
	—
Total	46

Proceedings were instituted in five cases, four for selling milk containing added water and one for selling milk deficient in fat.

With regard to the four samples containing added water, convictions were recorded and the defendants were fined in each case. In the remaining instance it was proved that the milk was sold as it came from the cow, and the case was dismissed.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT SHOPS.

The number of licensed slaughterhouses and their situations are as follows:—

- (1) Cae Gwtr, Vernon Road.
- (2) Ty Slon, Rear of Crynallt House, Newton.

Number of Meat Shops in the Area	10
Visits paid to Slaughterhouses	406
Visits to Meat Shops and Stalls	518

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

This Act provides for the humane and scientific slaughter of animals, and for the licensing of all slaughtermen by the Local Authority.

The number of licences granted by the Council in 1937 ... 10

Public Health (Meat) Regulations.

Notices of intended slaughter, outside the regular hours, and which must be delivered to the Sanitary Inspector were as follows :—

Three Hours' Notice (Butchers)	41
Three Hours' Notice (Cottagers)	3
Notice of Disease	4
Notice of Emergency Slaughter	2

The requirements as to the giving of notice are well observed

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	<i>Cattle.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep & Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>
Numbered Killed	168	86	2,210	384
Number Inspected	168	86	2,210	384
(All Diseases except Tuberculosis).				
Whole Carcases Condemned ..	—	—	3	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	13	—	4	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	7.7	—	0.3	1.0
(Tuberculosis Only)				
Whole Carcases Condemned ..	1	—	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	—	—	12
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	2.9	—	—	3.9

Summary of Weight of Meat Condemned :—

	<i>Weight.</i>
Bovines—Tuberculosis	605 lbs.
Other Diseases	134 „
Pigs—Tuberculosis	289 „
Other Diseases	17 „
Sheep and Lambs—Other Diseases	145 „
Total	<u>1190 „</u>

Or 0 tons, 10 cwts., 2 qrs., 14 lbs.

The following table shows the number of carcasses examined and amount of meat condemned during 1937 and previous years.

Year.	Weight of Meat Condemned.				No. of Carcasses Examined.
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	
1930	1	14	0	25	1,699
1931	1	2	0	23	2,251
1932	0	13	3	24	2,854
1933	0	18	3	2	2,684
1934	0	11	0	18	2,600
1935	0	6	1	14	2,609
1936	0	4	2	8	3,140
1937	0	10	2	14	2,848

Other Foods Condemned :—

53 Dressed Fowls—Decomposing.

1 Parcel of Wet Fish—Decomposing.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Diphtheria.

The number of cases notified was 26, as compared with 7 cases during 1936 and 6 notifications during 1935; this is the highest number recorded for the Area, and was due to an outbreak occurring at the end of the year during the months of November and December.

All the cases were removed to hospital. One death occurred.

The majority of the patients were scholars attending the New Road Council Schools. Every effort was made to trace the source of infection and in this connection I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health, Dr. E. Colston Williams, for his valuable advice and assistance.

Among the last cases removed to hospital, two of the patients had nasal Diphtheria, and had been affected with a nasal discharge for some time before they were diagnosed. They were probably the cause of infection in some of the earlier cases.

Diphtheria Antitoxin is provided free to Medical Practitioners for patients residing within the Urban Area. Quantities are kept at the Council Offices and at the Medical Officer's Residence and also at the Police Stations at Newton, Nottage and John Street where it may be obtained immediately at any hour.

No action was taken to provide artificial immunisation against Diphtheria.

Scarlet Fever.

24 cases of this disease were notified to me, as compared with 6 cases for 1936 and 19 during 1935. 18 patients were removed to hospital, the remainder were suitable cases for nursing and supervision at home. The disease continued to be of a mild type generally and no deaths occurred.

Pneumonia.

All forms of Pneumonia are not notifiable. One case of Acute Influenzal Pneumonia was notified during 1937. 3 deaths were certified (all forms) as due to this disease.

Acute Encephalitis Lethargica.

One case was notified, occurring in a female aged 42 years. The patient was removed to the Cardiff Infirmary and died in that institution.

Other Notifiable Diseases.

One case each of Puerperal Pyrexia, Erysipelas, and Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified during the year.

Non-Notifiable Acute Infectious Diseases.

The incidence of these diseases was not marked—no deaths were recorded for Whooping Cough—one death (female) was certified as due to Measles.

Disinfection.

On the termination of illness or removal of the case to hospital, the premises are disinfected by formalin lamps or other appropriate means. Sufficient disinfectant and printed directions are given to the occupier for securing the domestic cleansing and treatment of bedclothes and other articles.

Books from a Public Lending Library found in infected premises are confiscated and destroyed by burning.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1937.

Notifiable Diseases.	Cases notified in whole District.													Total No. of Cases removed to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
	At Ages—Years.														
	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	65—	Total		
1. Scarlet Fever	—	—	3	—	3	13	3	1	1	—	—	—	24	18	—
2. Diphtheria	—	—	—	1	—	12	8	1	3	1	—	—	26	26	1
3. Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
4. Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
5. Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
6. Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1
7. Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—
Totals	1	—	3	1	3	25	11	2	6	2	1	—	55	45	3

Deaths from Cancer, 1937.

	AGE GROUPS										Total Deaths	
	0—15		15—25		25—45		45—65		65 Up			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Colon	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	2
Uterai	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Totals	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	1	1	5

Tuberculosis.

Notification of and Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Age Periods.	New Cases.						Deaths.					
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Totals.		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Totals.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	2	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	2	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
45—65	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & Up	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	6	4	—	1	6	5	—	1	—	—	—	1

The number of new cases coming to my knowledge was 11, giving a rate of 1.64 new cases per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

Death rate per 1,000 of the population:—

Pulmonary Forms	.....	0.14
Other Forms	.....	0.00

Observation Cases.

Deleted from the Register :—

By Death	.....	1
Removal from the District	.....	2
Altered Diagnosis	.....	0
Recovered	.....	3

Prevention and Treatment of Tuberculosis.

No special provision is made by the Council for the treatment of Tuberculosis. All cases notified or otherwise coming to my notice, are investigated by the Sanitary Inspector, who pays close attention to the habitable condition of the premises, provision for isolation of the patient, and preventing the spread of this disease. Form. T.W. 1. Wales is completed in each case and forwarded to the Tuberculosis Physician, Bridgend.

Treatment of the patient is left to the Medical Practitioner in attendance, who, either directly or through the Medical Officer of Health, obtains the assistance of the Welsh National Memorial Association, and as a result of the procedure 10 patients were admitted to the institutions of the Association during the year.

The nearest Tuberculosis visiting station and dispensary is at Bridgend, where the Tuberculosis Physician visits weekly for consultation and examination of patients.

Public Health Act, 1925.—Section 62.

Public Health Act, 1936.—Section 174.

These enactments make provision for the removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis where it is proved to the satisfaction of a Court of Summary Jurisdiction that the lodging or accommodation provided for that person is such that proper precautions to prevent the spread of infection cannot be taken, or that such precautions are not being taken and that serious risk of infection is thereby caused to other persons.

No action was taken under this head by the Health Department in 1937.

The Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

The above Regulations prohibit the employment in connection with a dairy of any person who is suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis if his employment involves the milking of cows, the treatment of milk, or the handling of vessels for containing milk. If a Local Authority, on the report of the Medical Officer of Health, is satisfied that a person residing in their district is so employed, and is suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, and is in an infectious state, they may require such person to discontinue his employment. Compensation is to be paid to any person who sustains damage by reason of the exercise of any of the powers of these Regulations if he himself is not in default.

The Local Authority took no action under these Regulations during the year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases.			Vision Un- impaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
Notified.	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hosp'l.				
1	1	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil

Public Vaccination.

No vaccinations or re-vaccinations were carried out by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1937.

England and Wales, London, 125 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.				
	England and Wales.	125 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County.
Rates per 1,000 Population.				
Births :—				
Live	14.9	14.9	15.3	13.3
Still	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54
Deaths :—				
All Causes	12.4	12.5	11.9	12.3
Typhoid & Para- typhoid Fevers ..	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05
Influenza	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38
Violence	0.54	0.45	0.42	0.51
Notifications :—				
Smallpox	0.00	—	0.00	—
Scarlet Fever	2.33	2.56	2.42	2.09
Diphtheria	1.49	1.81	1.38	1.93
Enteric Fever	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.44
Pneumonia	1.36	1.58	1.20	1.18
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths under 1 year of age	58	62	55	60
Deaths from Diarrhoea & Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.8	7.9	3.2	12.0
Maternal Mortality :—				
Others	0.97	} <i>Not available.</i>		
Total	2.26			
Puerperal Sepsis	3.23			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live & Still).				
Maternal Mortality :—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.94	} <i>Not available.</i>		
Others	2.17			
Total	3.11			
Notifications :—				
Puerperal Fever	13.93	17.59	11.52	4.15
Puerperal Pyrexia				14.34

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY).

INFANT MORTALITY RATES, 1937.

District.	Total No. of Births.	Deaths under 1 yr.	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
Administrative County	10,942 ...	714 ...	65
Urban Districts	8,336 ...	549 ...	66
Rural Districts	2,606 ...	165 ...	63
England and Wales	— ...	— ...	58
Urban Districts.			
Aberdare	605 ...	44 ...	73
Barry	495 ...	29 ...	59
Bridgend	159 ...	11 ...	69
Cacrphilly	620 ...	43 ...	69
Cowbridge Borough	13 ...	1 ...	77
Gelligaer	675 ...	26 ...	38
Glyncorrwg	196 ...	13 ...	66
Llwchwr	375 ...	26 ...	69
Macsteg	391 ...	25 ...	64
Mountain Ash	554 ...	47 ...	85
Neath Borough	470 ...	27 ...	57
Ogmore and Garw	368 ...	35 ...	95
Penarth	200 ...	16 ...	80
Pontypridd	637 ...	44 ...	69
PORTHCAWL	74 ...	3 ...	40
Port Talbot	698 ...	38 ...	54
Rhondda	1,806 ...	121 ...	67
Rural Districts.			
Cardiff	352 ...	20 ...	57
Cowbridge	159 ...	10 ...	63
Gower	141 ...	7 ...	50
Llantrisant & Llantwit Fardre ...	418 ...	29 ...	69
Neath	643 ...	41 ...	64
Penybont	435 ...	28 ...	64
Pontardawe	458 ...	30 ...	65





